



JOE MORELLO SEMINAR

by Bob Saydlowski, Jr.

Drummers in New England recently attended a 5-day seminar, at the Holiday Inn in Peabody, Massachusetts, with Joe Morello, in conjunction with the Eames Drum Company and Joe MacSweeney. Morello was there to premier his new approach to drum clinics. "Regular clinics are much too short," said Morello. "Nothing is really being taught. The clinician just plays, there's a question and answer period, and the people don't really learn anything."

Joe teaches two hour classes twice each day, followed by a highly concentrated course on drumming; a condensed version of lessons given to Joe's private students. For a \$125.00 registration fee,

drummers can learn hand development, technique, coordination, control and endurance, odd times, melodic playing and phrasing, and soloing. Students can also ask questions about subjects not normally covered.

Debbie Andreas, Joe's assistant and coordinator, stressed that no more than 25 students are accepted into a class to retain a personal relationship between Morello and the students.

Students come armed with practice pad, sticks, and manuscript paper. Joe uses the pad, snare, drumset and sometimes even a table top to demonstrate with. Photocopied exercises are given to each student to take home and practice.

Each new class begins with a 20 minute recap of the previous lesson. At the class I attended, Morello demonstrated

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many ways to use Stone's *Stick Control*, and discussed the value of rudiments and muscle training. The seminar encompasses all different styles of music—including jazz, rock, and commercial—and no style of music is discouraged. At one point, each student traded fours with Joe on drumsets. He praised each student's drumming and the players received applause from the class.

Joe hopes to give his seminars throughout the United States and possibly in Canada. The seminar is basically expense-free for dealers. For drummers who can't study privately with Morello, the seminar is a dream come true; a chance to learn with one of the world's best drummers. Joe Morello is doing a great thing. From the enthusiasm of the students I'd say it's needed.

Ludwig industries recently announced the addition of three specialists, Butch Miles, Bob Houston, and Ted Piltzecker, to its educational staff. Through Ludwig's clinic program, these artists will be available for guest clinic appearances at conventions, schools, or dealer-sponsored workshops.

Butch Miles is widely acclaimed as one of America's foremost big band drummers. Bob Houston is a noted authority on marching percussion and a leading figure in percussion education. Ted Piltzecker is an internationally known vibraphone performer with numerous talents as an arranger, composer, conductor, and mallet clinician.

Complete details are available from: Karl Dustman, Educational Director, Ludwig Industries, 1728 North Damen Ave., Chicago, IL 60647.

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JOE VITALE—*Plantation Harbor*. Asylum 5E-529. Joe Vitale: Drums, Percussion, Organ. Clavinet. Synthesizers, Lead vocal. Electric piano. Flute, Vibes, Grand piano. Rhythm clavinet. George "Chocolate" Perry: Bass, Willie "Beaver" Hale, Joe Walsh, Don Felder: Guitars, Paul Harris: Piano, Joe Lala: Congas, Bobby Mayo: Lead clavinet, Jimmy

Pankow: Trombone, Lee Loughnane: Trumpet, Walt Parazaider: Tenor sax, Marty Grebb: Alto sax, Joe Vitale, George "Chocolate" Perry. Mickey Thomas, Ricky "Goona" Washington. Marilyn "Mini" Martin, Joan Perry. Timothy B. Schmit, Greg Droman, Stephen Stills, Graham Nash: Vocals. *Plantation Harbor / Never Gonna Leave You Alone (Crazy 'Bout You Baby) / Laugh—*

Laugh / Man Gonna Love You / Theme From Cabin Weiridos / Lady On The Rock / Bamboo Jungle / Sailor Man / I'm Flyin'.

First solo album by Vitale. Not a "drum album," per se, but a fine album in a pop vein by a multi-talented musician. Vitale completed a solo tour this past year, and has played with the Eagles.

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